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Mayor's Statement Regarding South Bend Common Council's Ordinance for Marquette School:

I believe that my veto of this ordinance is valid and thus disagree with the Council Attorney's opinion regarding my authority relative to Landmark Ordinances. Our City Attorney also believes that this veto is valid and that it stands. While this matter could be resolved through the courts, I also believe that it is not very productive to spend taxpayer dollars to do this.

Further delays only put the school corporation at a disadvantage with its plans to move forward with Marquette and Monroe Primary Centers as well as Clay and Washington High Schools, which are a part of this bond process. Therefore, we will work with Dr. Zimmerman and the School Board to look for options that will help the school corporation to move forward in providing the best education possible for all of our children. The most critical component is that a quality school remains at the site where the current Marquette exists.

As a note, it has been a regular practice that I have signed landmark ordinances, including several that have been passed by the council since the most recent changes in the zoning ordinance.